

Message Text

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ACTION COA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 EB-07

TRSE-00 INT-05 CG-00 DOTE-00 /042 W

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R 161407Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2782

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS PANAMA 0291

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, PN, ECRP

SUBJECT: SHRIMP FISHING

MEXICO FOR FISHERIES ATTACHE

USDOC FOR NMFS

REF: PANAMA A-70 OF APRIL 17, 1974

1. ON JANUARY 15, 1974 PANAMA'S MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ANNOUNCED A BAN ON SHRIMPING FOR THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH. LANDINGS OF SHRIMP, WHICH IS A MAJOR EXPORT, ARE OFF FROM LAST YEAR, ESPECIALLY IN THE HIGH VALUE WHITE (BLANCO) VARIETY. AT THE SAME TIME, THE INDUSTRY HAS BEEN HIT BY RISING COSTS AND FALLING PRICES. ACCORDING TO PANAMA'S STAR & HERALD, SHRIMP PRICES HAVE DECLINED - TO 65 PERCENT-- A LOSS OF \$5 MILLION AT 1974 EXPORT LEVELS--AND THE PRICE OF LIGHT DIESEL HAS INCREASED FROM \$.09 TO \$.32 PER GALLON. COST OF NET AND CABLES HAS ALSO RISEN.

2. THE TWO-MONTH BAN WOULD AID THE INDUSTRY BY PROHIBITING THE CATCH OF SHRIMP DURING THE REPRODUCTIVE PERIOD. THE GAIN IN NUMBERS AND ALSO IN WEIGHT WILL OFFSET THE CATCH LOST BY SUSPENSION OF SHRIMPING. SUCH A BAN HAS BEEN ATTEMPTED IN UNCLASSIFIED

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PREVIOUS YEARS BUT WAS NOT EFFECTIVELY ENFORCED (SEE REF). THE

MINISTER STATED THAT LICENSES WOULD NOT BE GRANTED TO REPLACE THOSE OF BOATS WHICH SINK OR OTHERWISE RETIRE FROM THE SHRIMP FLEET. THE SHRIMP FLEET WILL BE LEFT WITH THE OPTION OF SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE OR OF FISHING IN DEEP WATER FAR FROM THE COAST. THE GOVERNMENT WILL SET UP A SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM TO PREVENT ILLEGAL SALE OF SHRIMP BY FISHING BOATS TO PLEASURE CRAFT.

3. COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1 YEAR SHRIMP CATCH WILL BE SENT VIA SEPARATE AIRGRAM.
JORDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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